

**Nordic
Architect
Panel**

Survey on tendencies in the Nordic
architecture industry – 2021/ 2022

- Purpose and Method
- Executive Summary
- Participants
- Summary of Key Findings



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Purpose and Method

The purpose of Nordic Architect Panel is to gather the latest knowledge and opinions of leading architectural profiles in the Nordics to better understand the current state of Nordic architecture.

This report is based on a total of 418 respondents divided between Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden. While the main target group of the survey is architects, the respondents also count engineers and other professionals working in the architecture industry.

Data from this survey is collected in the period from September to December 2021.

Executive Summary

In this survey, questions have been centred around four main topics – *Sustainability, Trends and Tendencies, Inspiration* and *The Architecture Industry in General*. With these topics, it has been our aim to provide a broad but also quite specific scope, where we shed a light on the state of the Nordic architecture industry.

With climate changes as the single most urgent topic in pretty much all industries today, we find it natural to dive into sustainability. Among other things, we look at which part of the value chain is most focused on sustainability, while we also look at which parameters matter most from a sustainability perspective when choosing building materials.

Later on, we look at the newest trends and tendencies in the architectural industry and the current state of the market.

All in all, it is our ambition to provide an insightful thermometer measure on Nordic architecture.

We hope you enjoy the reading of the report.

Participants

- 418 participants
- Average age of 54 years
- Average experience of 28 years

Country	Distribution
Denmark	33%
Sweden	23%
Finland	28%
Norway	27%

Job Title	Distribution
Architect	56%
Managerial position, CEO, Partner etc.	29%
Engineer	8%
Other	7%

Education	Distribution
Architect	71%
Other	20%
Constructing architect	7%
Tradesperson	1%



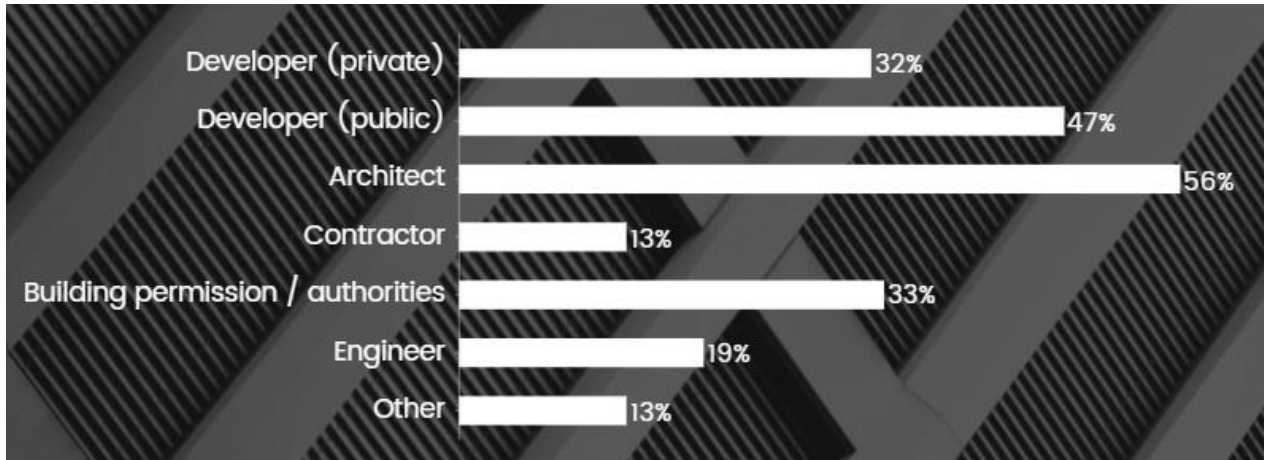
Sustainability



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1. Sustainability

Who, in your opinion, is most focused on sustainability?



Highlighted comments:

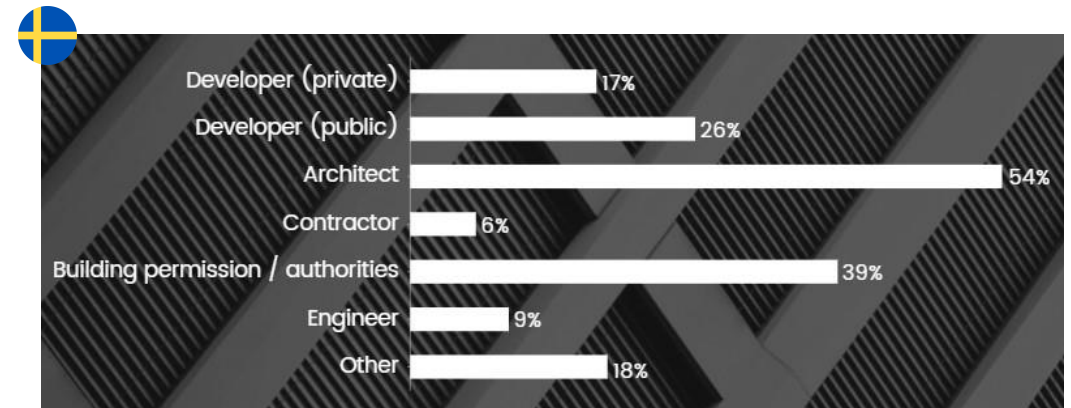
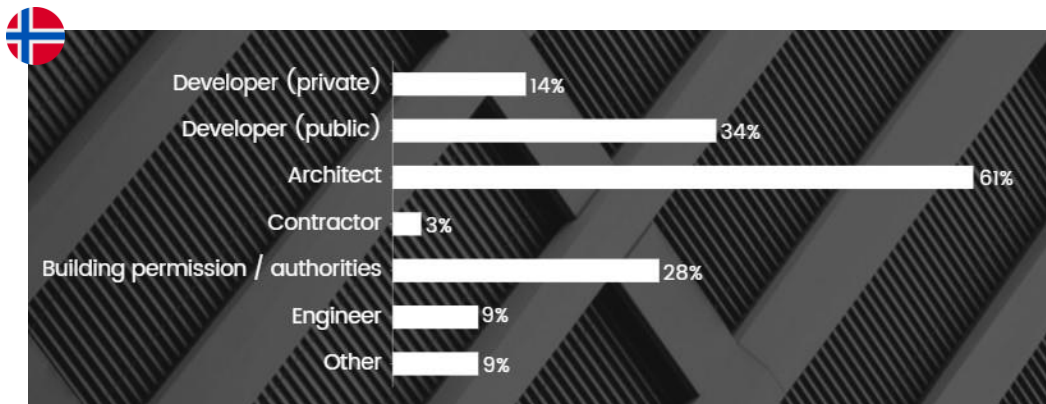
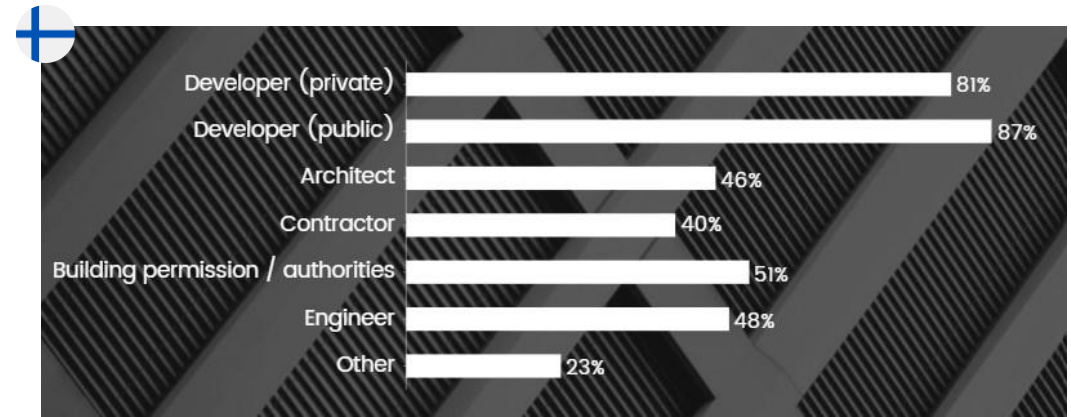
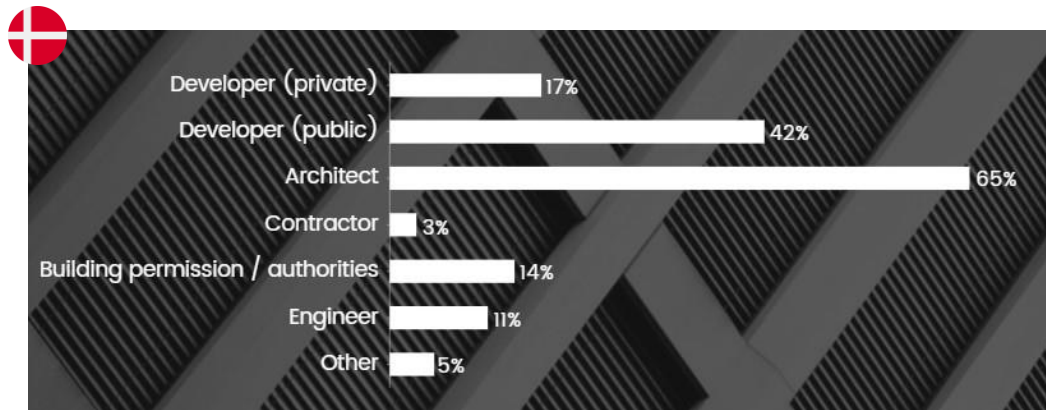
Architect - "Architects have a fundamental position and need to push fellow consultants in the same direction."

Developer (public and private) - "Sustainability has become a selling point for larger developers, both private and public."

Engineer - "Sustainability can be improved with the help of calculations."

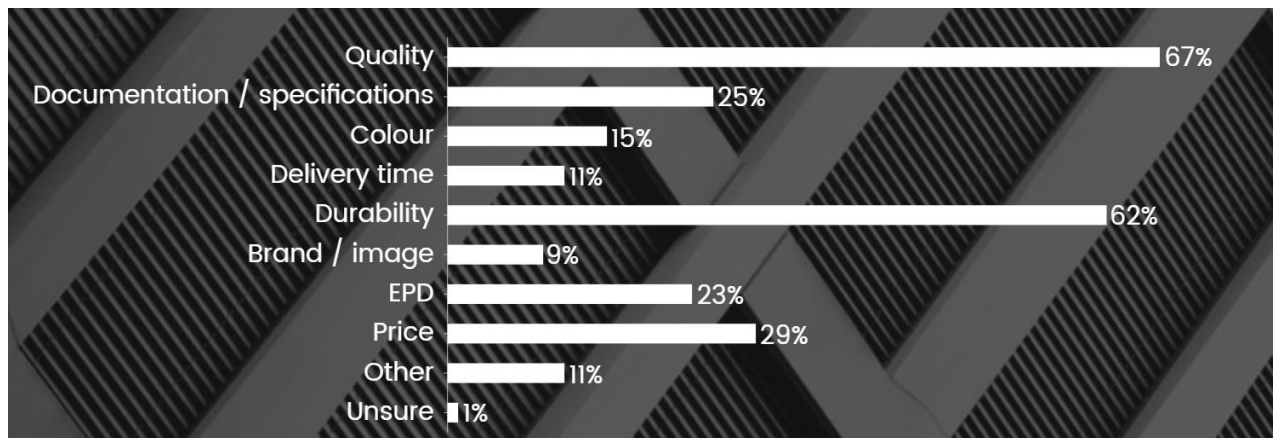
Responses divided by country

Who, in your opinion, is most focused on sustainability?



2. Sustainability

Which parameters matter most from a sustainability perspective when choosing building materials?



Highlighted comments:

Quality - "There should be a recycling element and natural materials in a product, but without compromising quality or durability."

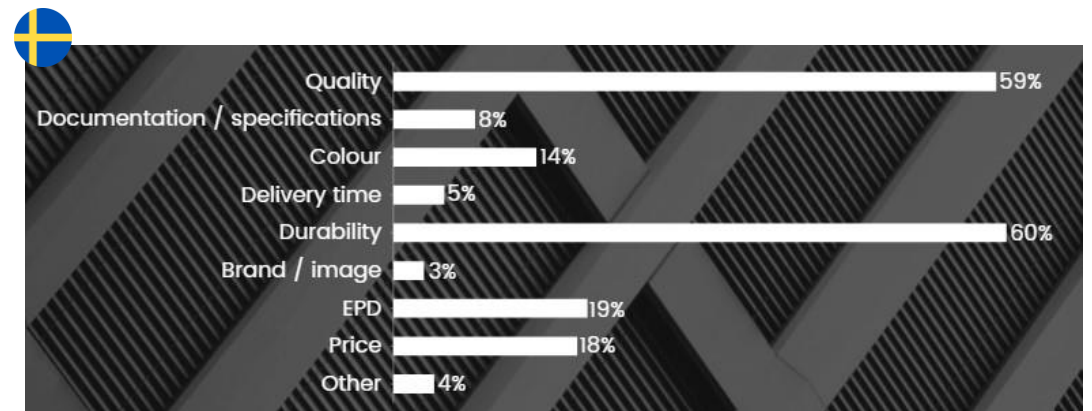
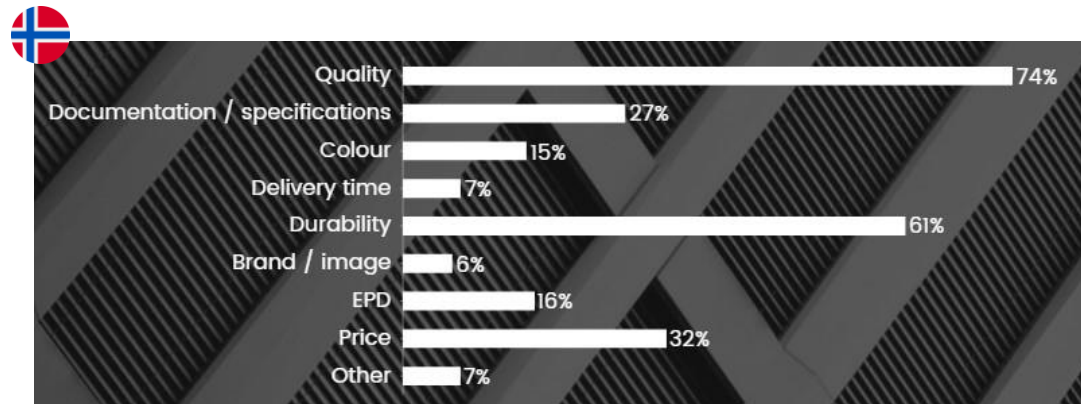
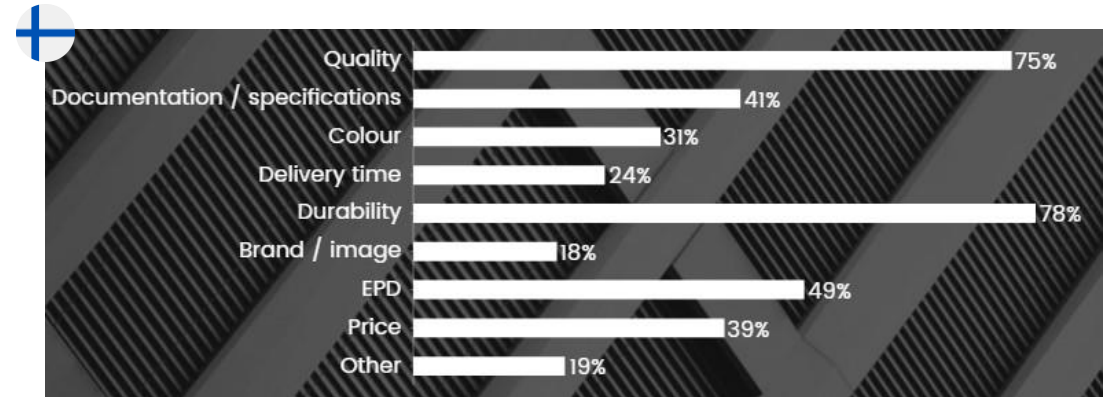
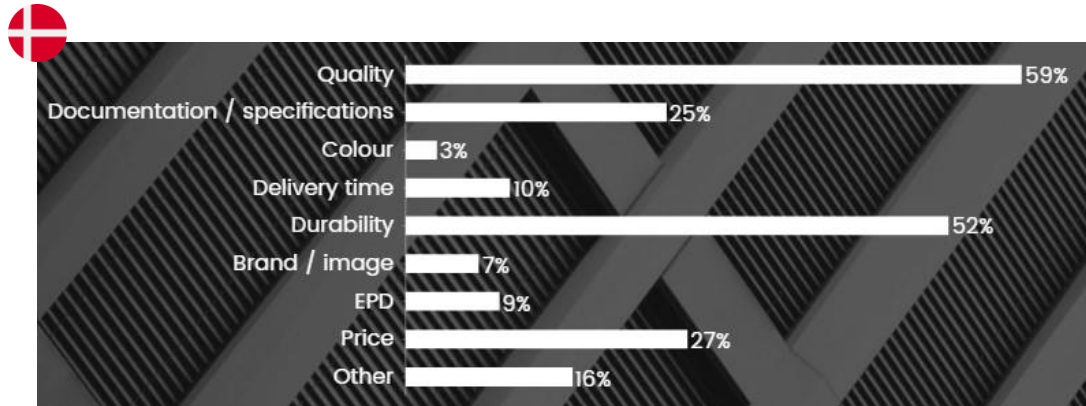
Other - "Recycled materials. A combination of price and sustainability."

Durability - "Durability equals sustainability."

Other - "A combination of them all, with price as the pivotal point."

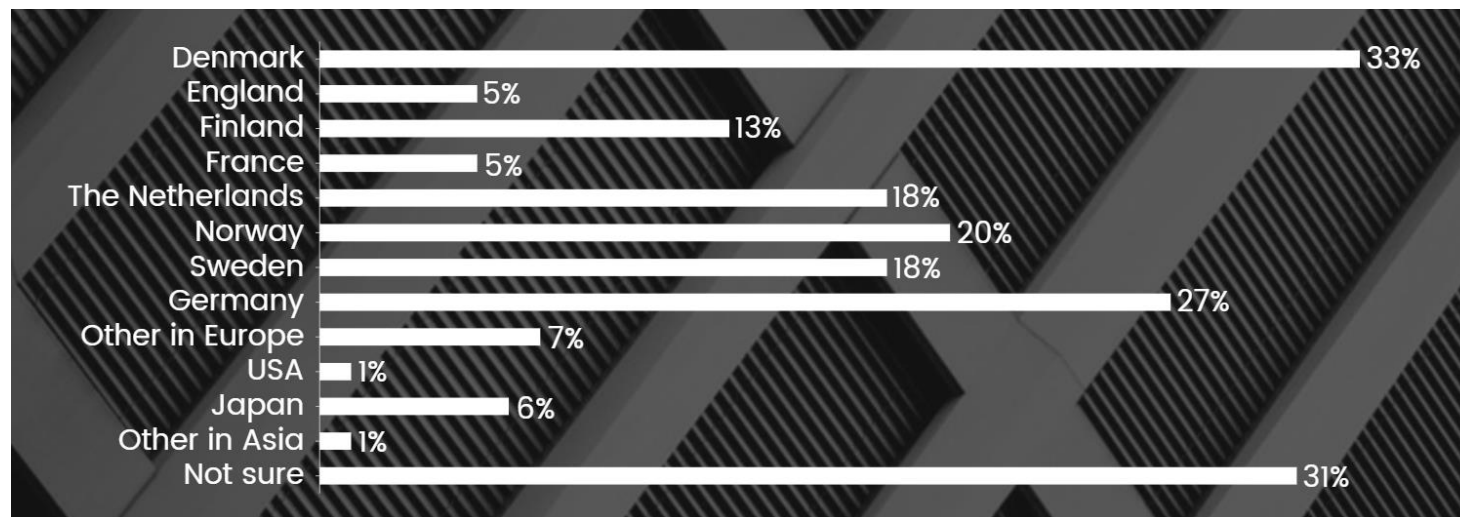
Responses divided by country

Which parameters matter most from a sustainability perspective when choosing building materials?



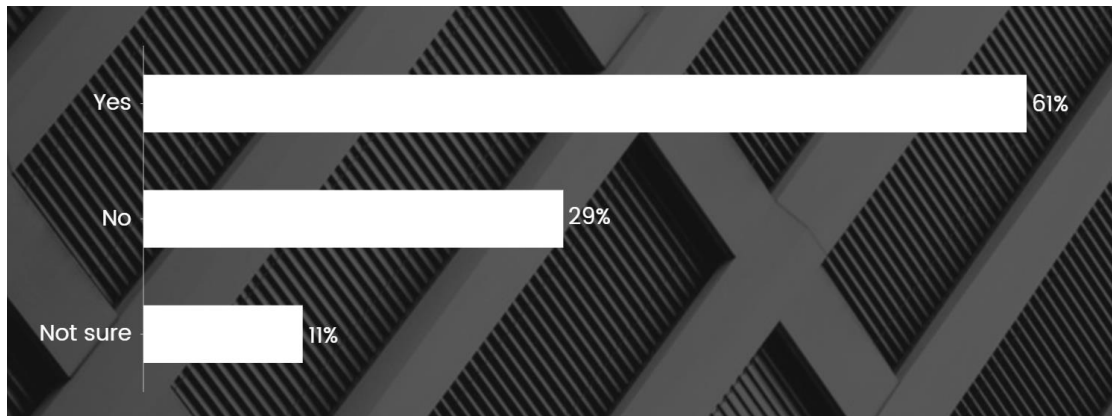
3. Sustainability

Which country's architectural industry has the most focus on sustainability?



4. Sustainability

Do you think that carbon accounting and Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) should be included in legislation/building regulations?



Highlighted comments:

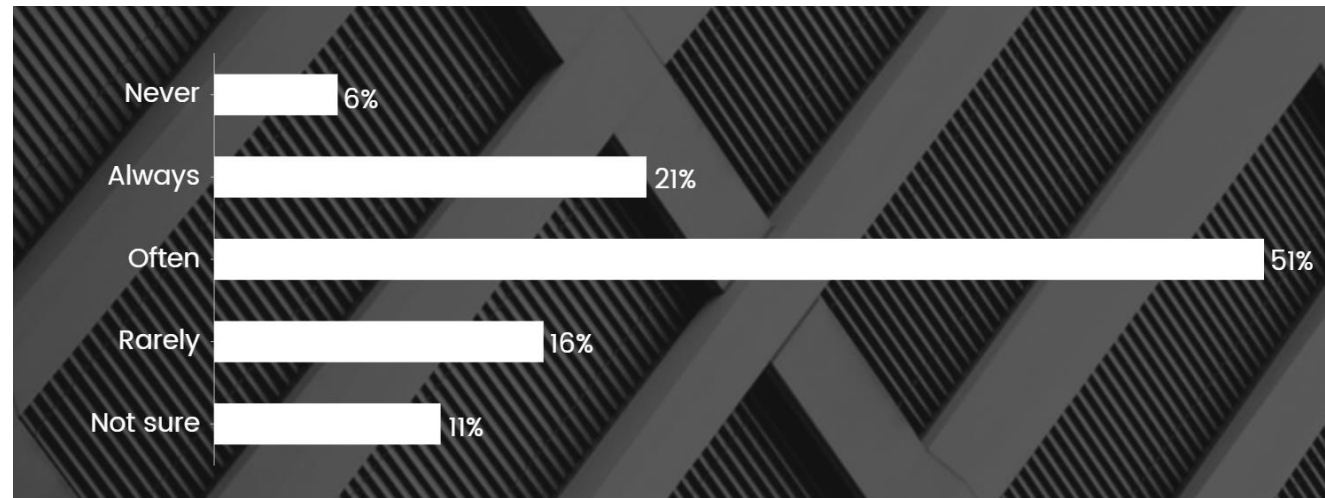
Yes - "But it must not obstruct future projects."

No - "The insensitivity for sustainability is so obvious that regulatory initiatives should be unnecessary."

Yes - "If it is affordable."

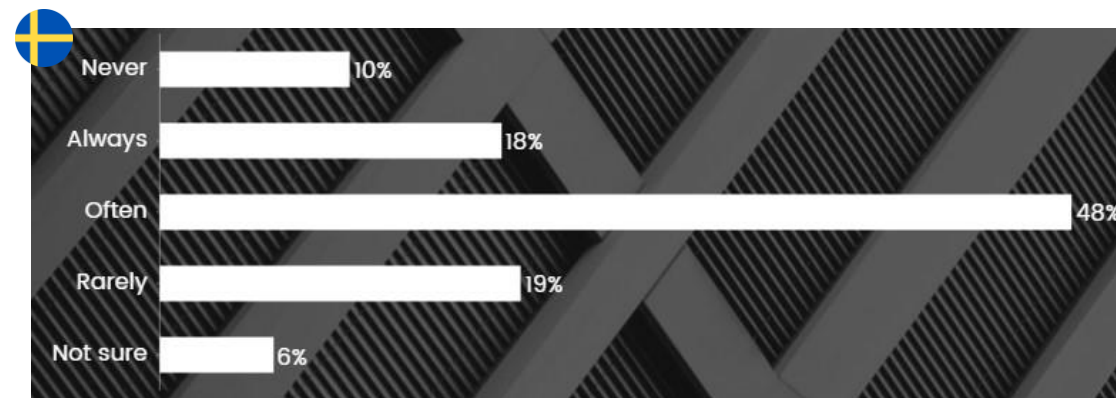
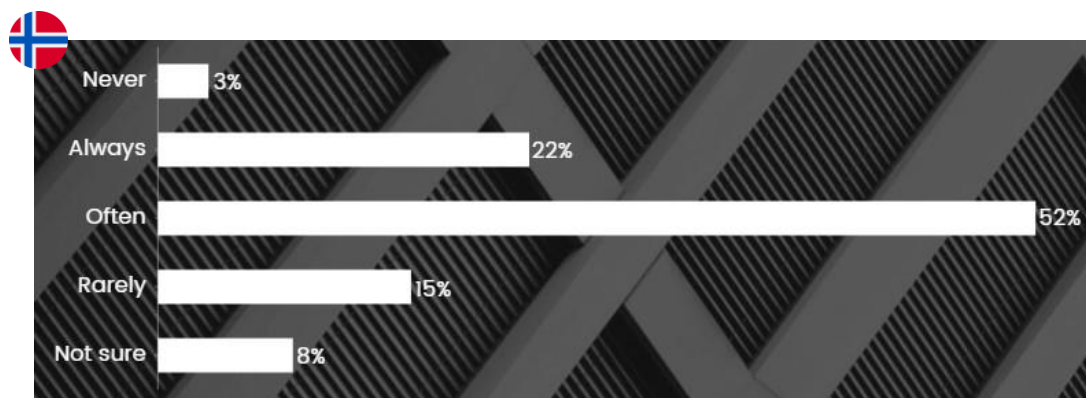
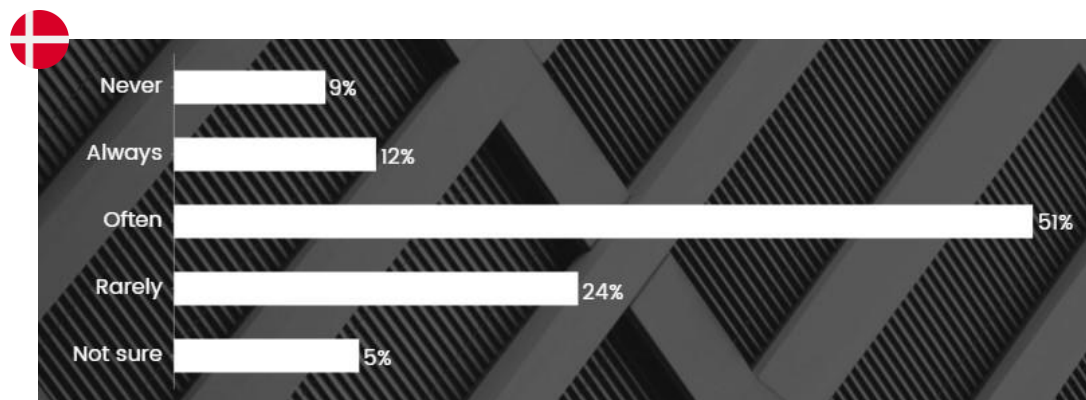
5. Sustainability

Do you choose materials based on sustainability parameters, even if there are not necessarily requirements for documentation in relation to sustainability/certification in the given project?



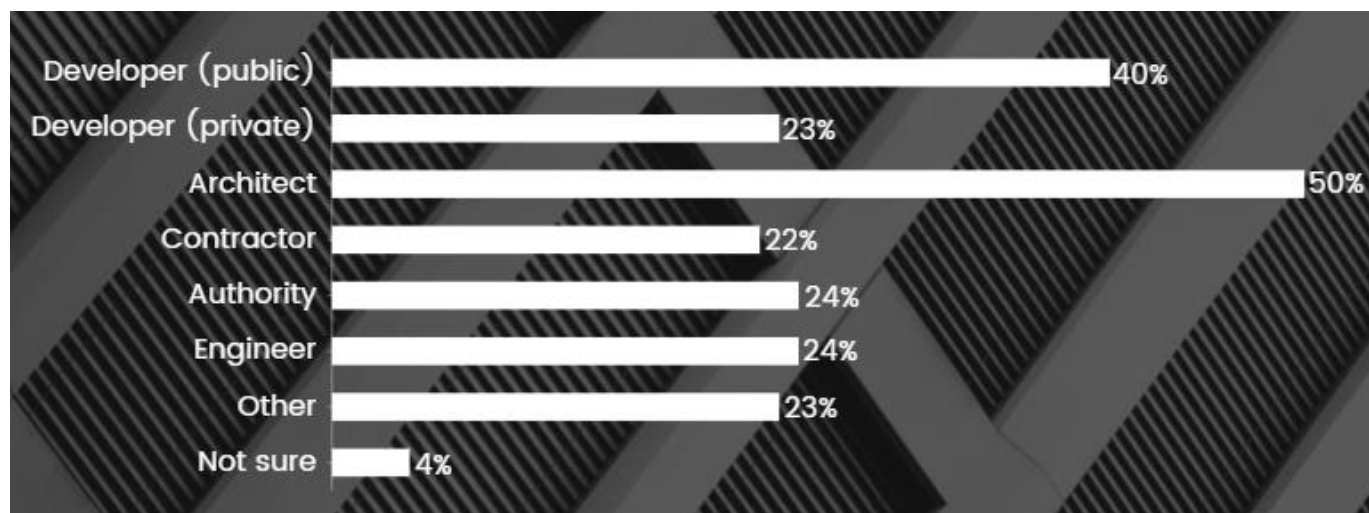
Responses divided by country

Do you choose materials based on sustainability parameters, even if there are not necessarily requirements for documentation in relation to sustainability/certification in the given project?



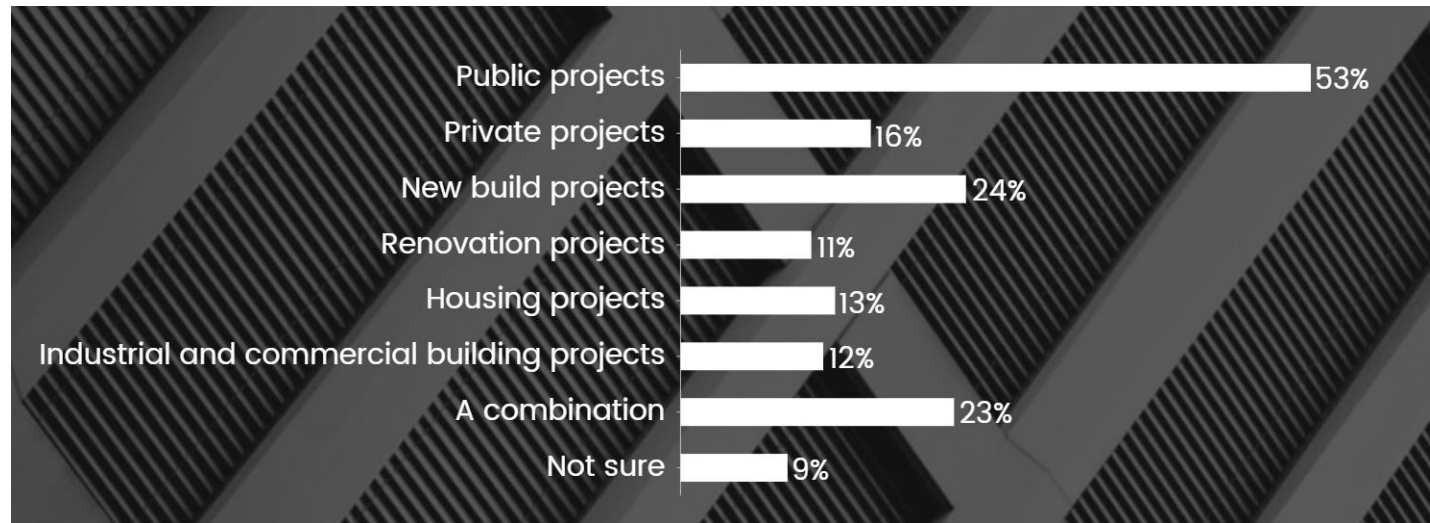
6. Sustainability

In which part of the value chain do you think documentation in relation to sustainability is primarily assessed?



7. Sustainability

Where do you experience the most focus on sustainability?





Trends and Tendencies



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8. Trends and Tendencies

Prefabricated construction is gaining ground in the construction industry. How does it affect creativity in architecture?

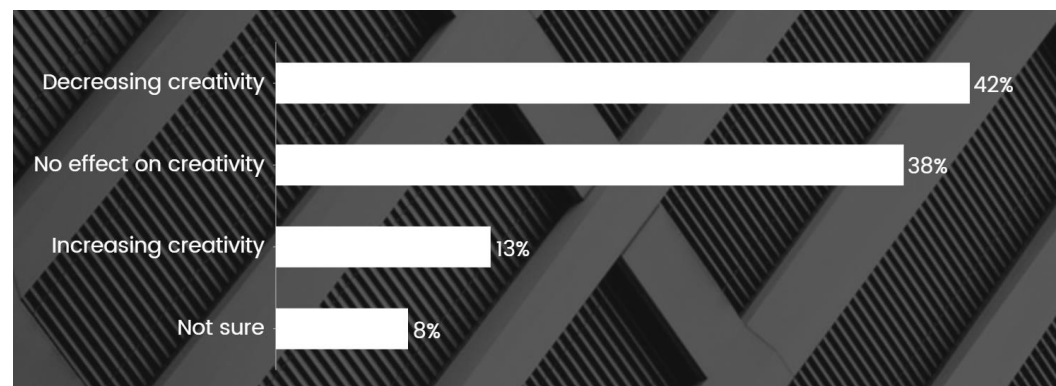
Highlighted comments:

Decreasing creativity - "I find it a bit boring to look at."

Decreasing creativity - "But it should not be that way."

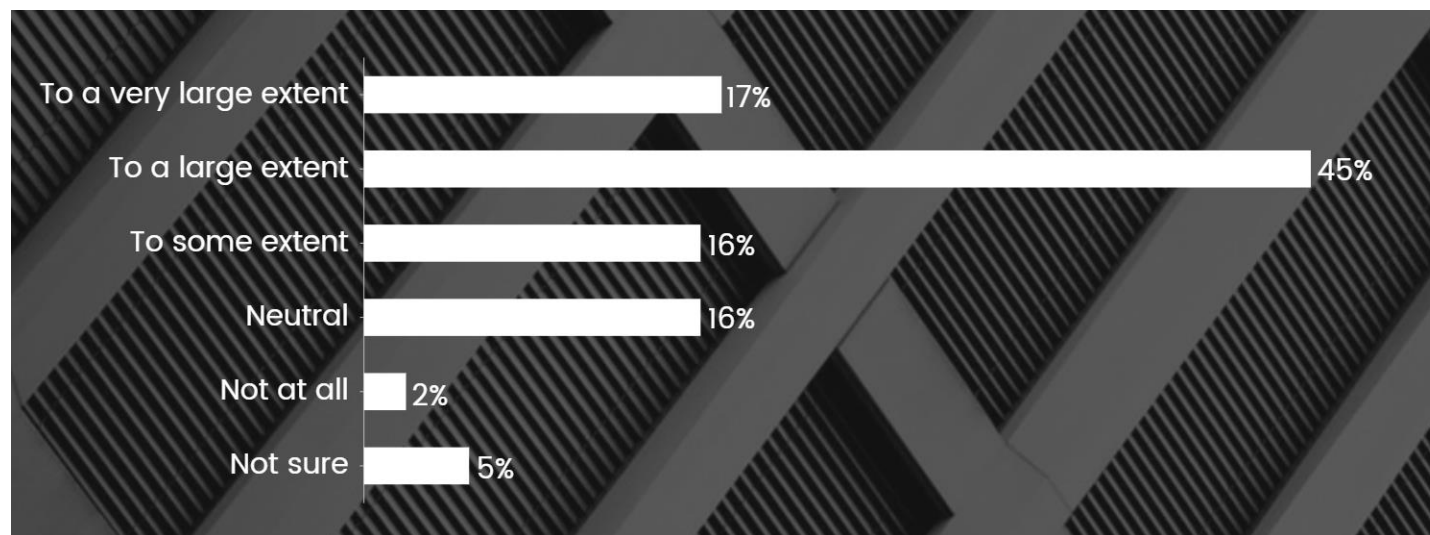
Increasing creativity - "But it needs improvement."

Not sure - "It is a positive challenge."



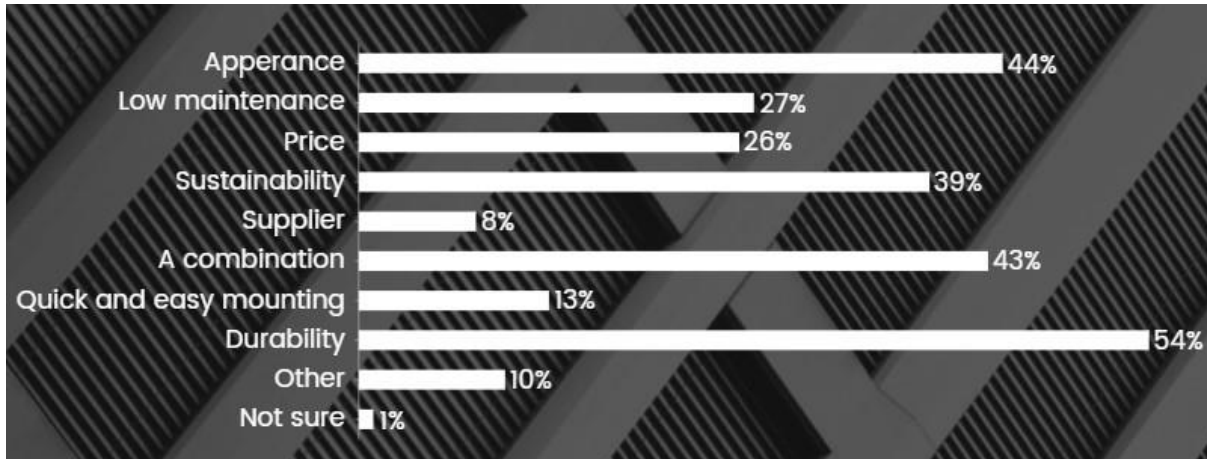
9. Trends and Tendencies

To what extent does it matter that building materials can be used in several different ways, thereby giving a variable expression on the same building?



10. Trends and Tendencies

What matters most to you in the choice of materials?



Highlighted comments:

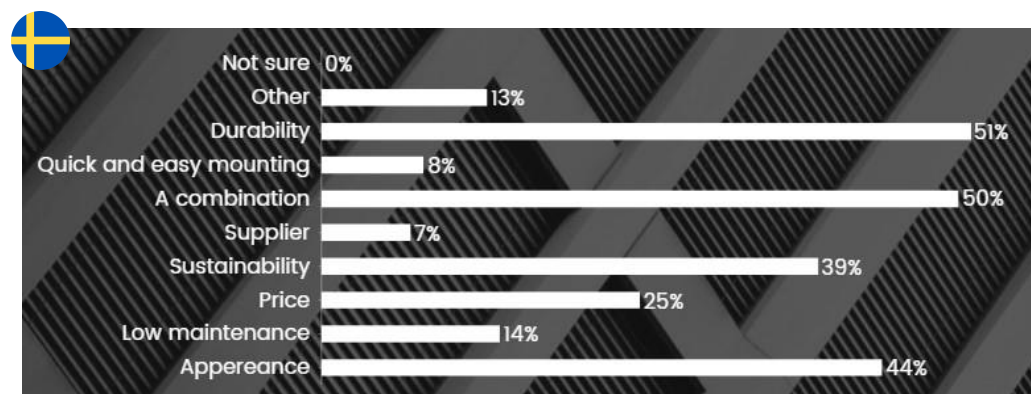
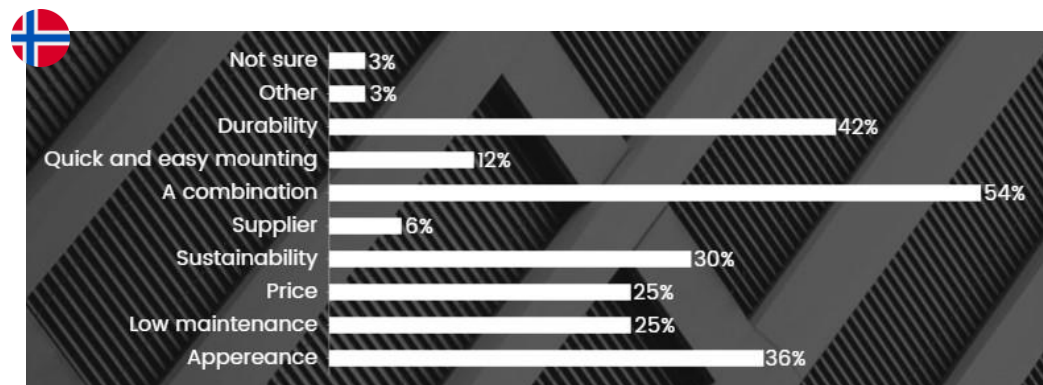
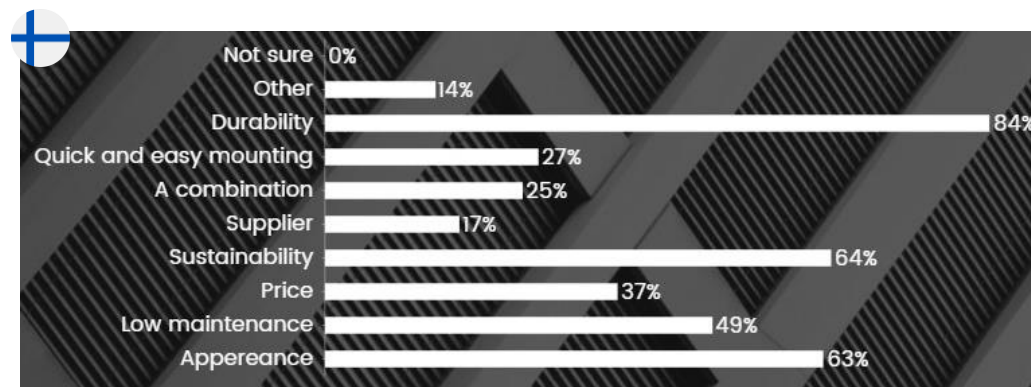
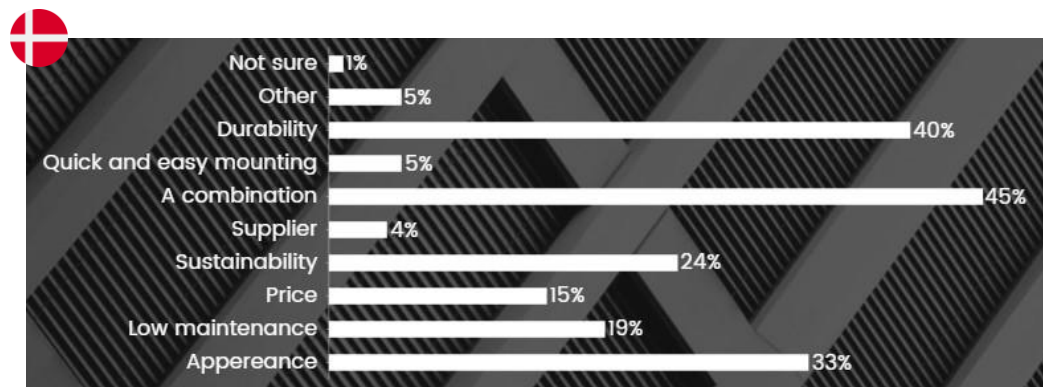
A combination - "Several parameters affect each other."

Other, appearance and low maintenance - "But it depends on whether the architect or developer is in charge."

Other - "Depends on the project and demands from the developer."

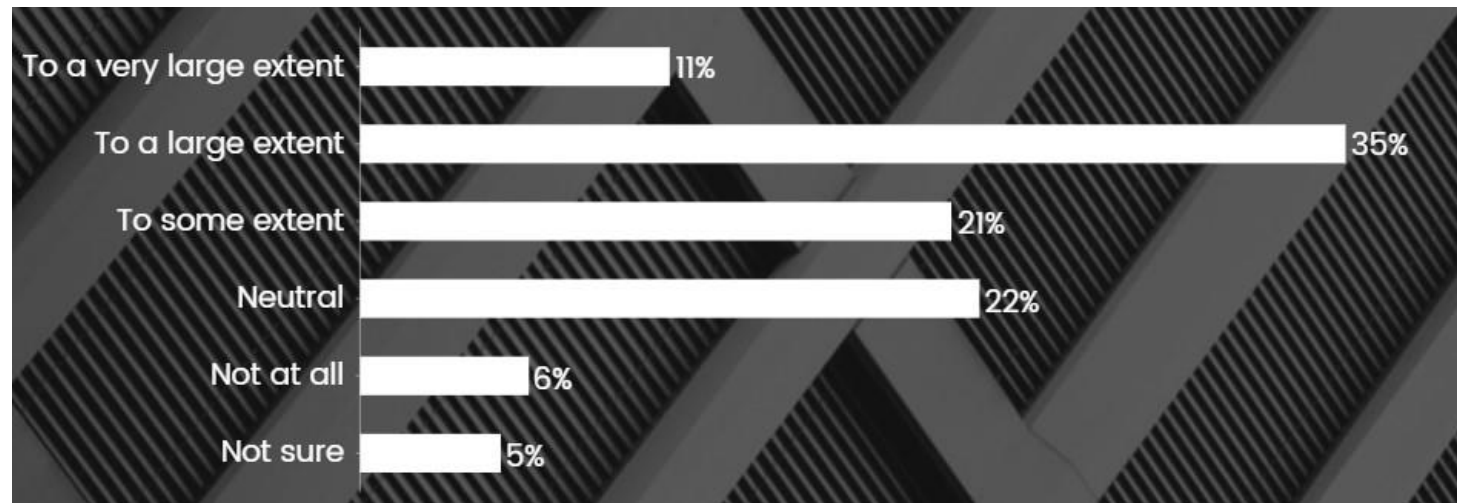
Responses divided by country

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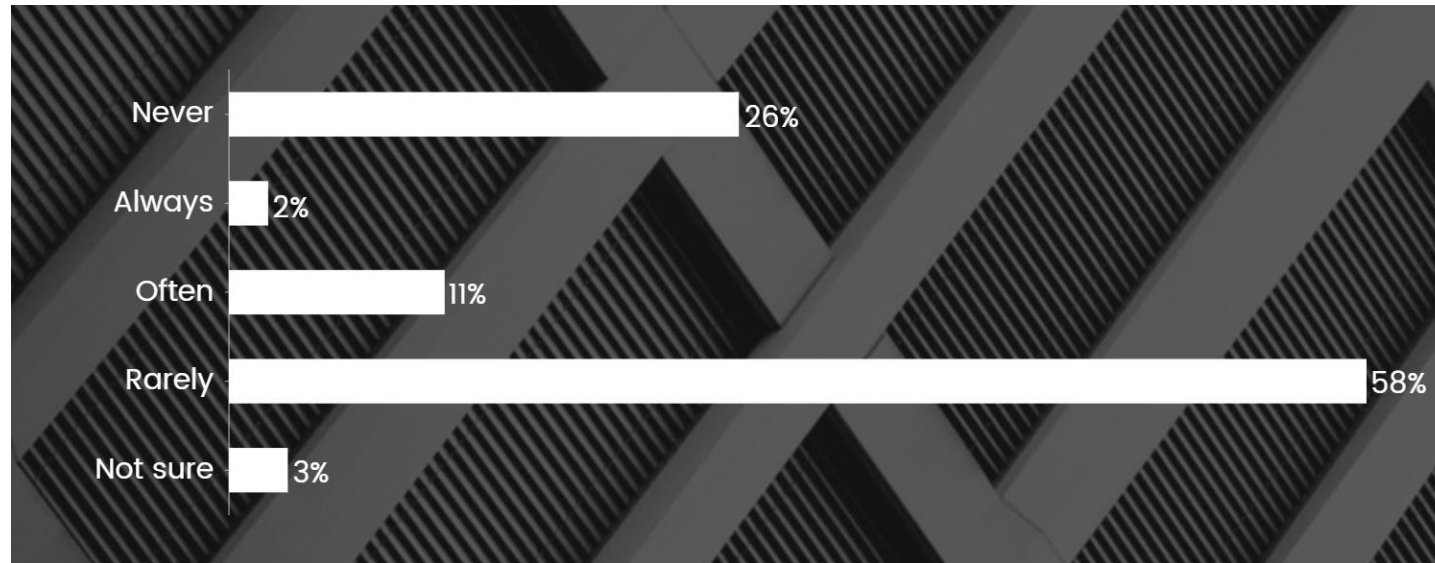
11. Trends and Tendencies

To what extent to you think the selection of materials in natural colors is sufficient?



12. Trends and Tendencies

How often do you choose materials with strong colors for entire facades?





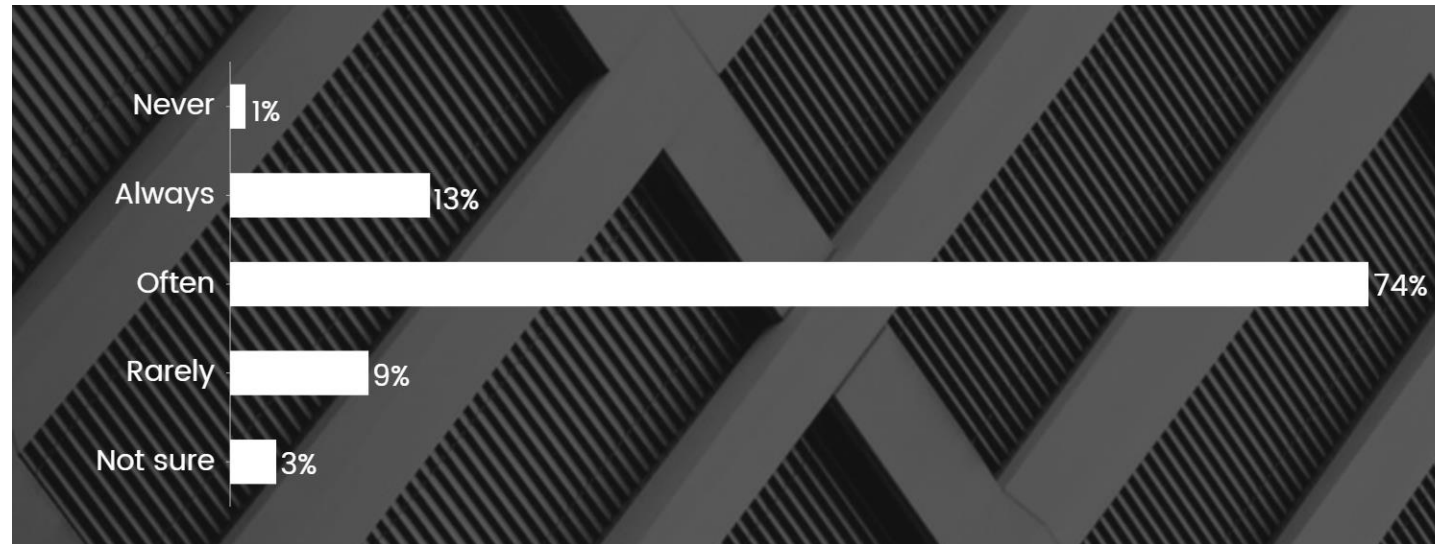
Inspiration



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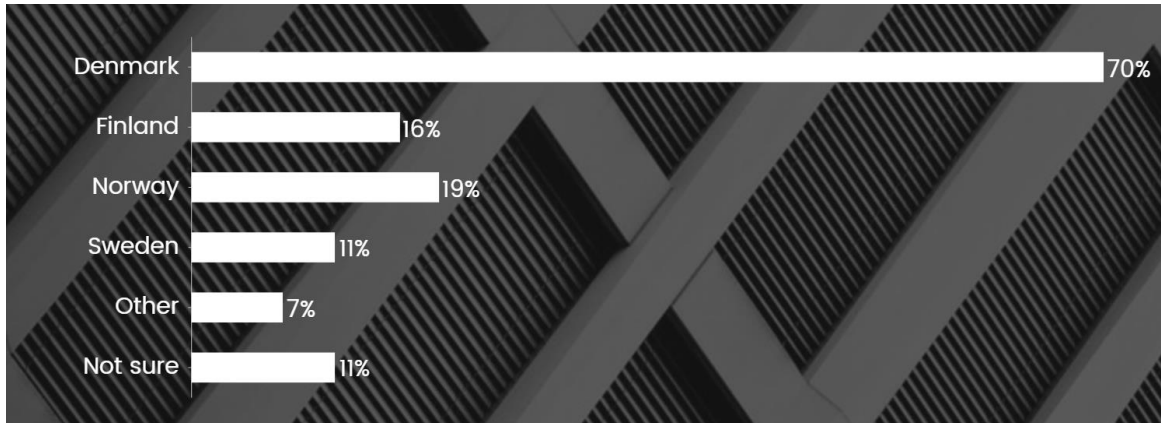
13. Inspiration

How often do you choose materials with natural colors for entire facades?



14. Inspiration

Which country's architectural industry has the most influence on Nordic architecture?



Highlighted comments:

Finland - "Especially Finland with large architectural firms leading the way."

Denmark - "Several large firms with departments in both Norway and Sweden – and thereby influence on the architecture."

Other - "It is an international environment, which is not affected by only one national architectural industry."

Other - "Switzerland."

Other - "Switzerland and Austria."

Other - "Japan, Switzerland and the Netherlands."

15. Inspiration

What is your primary source of inspiration?

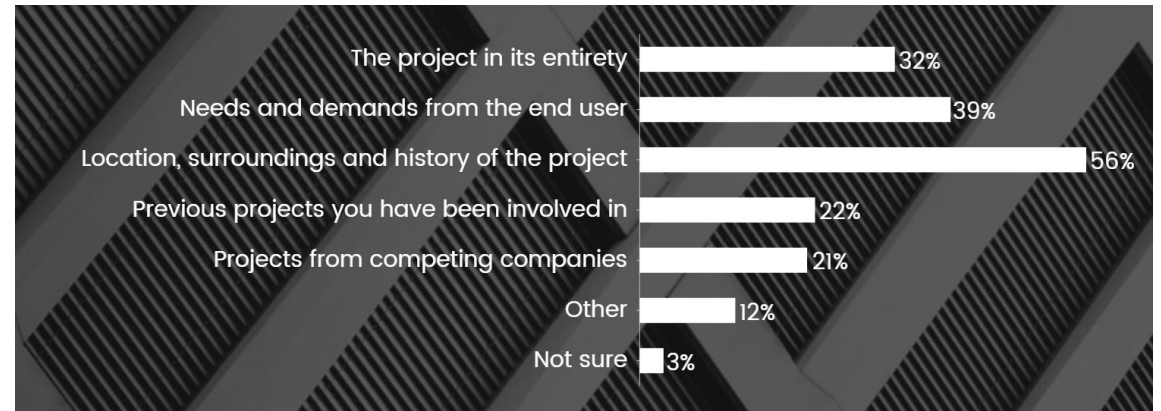
Highlighted comments:

Other - "A combination of them all."

Other - "I like projects concerned with utilisation of space, the idea of compact living and to get a lot out of only a few square meters. Every project has a unique history and should be treated that way."

Other - "Books about architectural history."

Other - "Instagram."



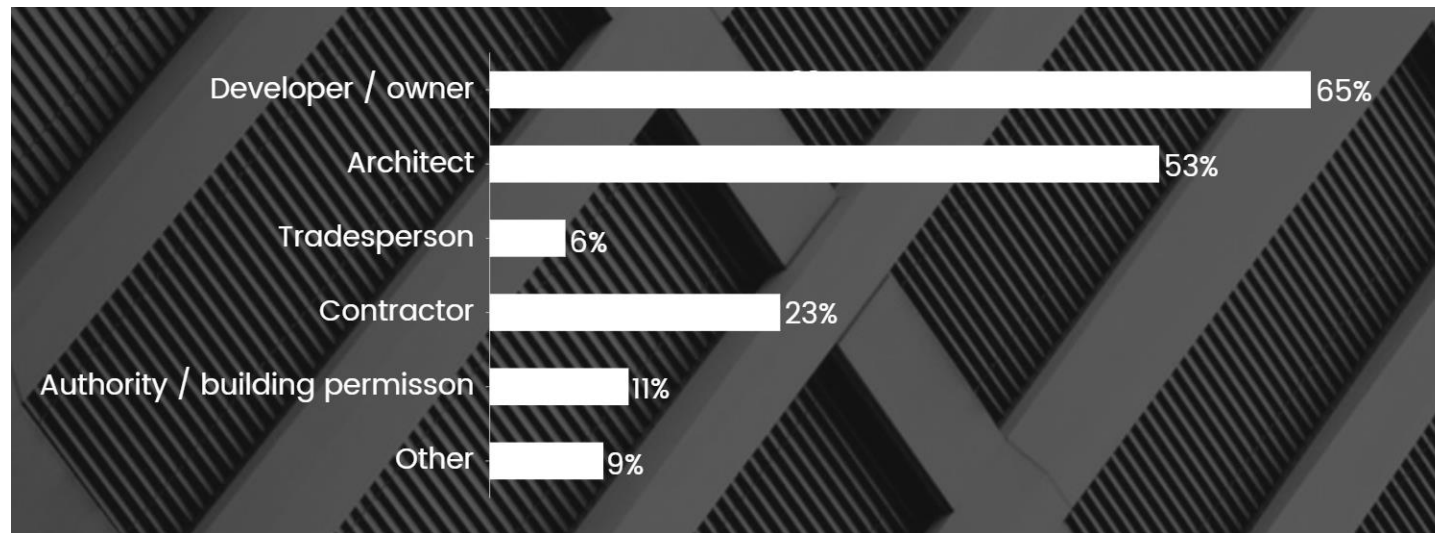
The Architecture Industry in General



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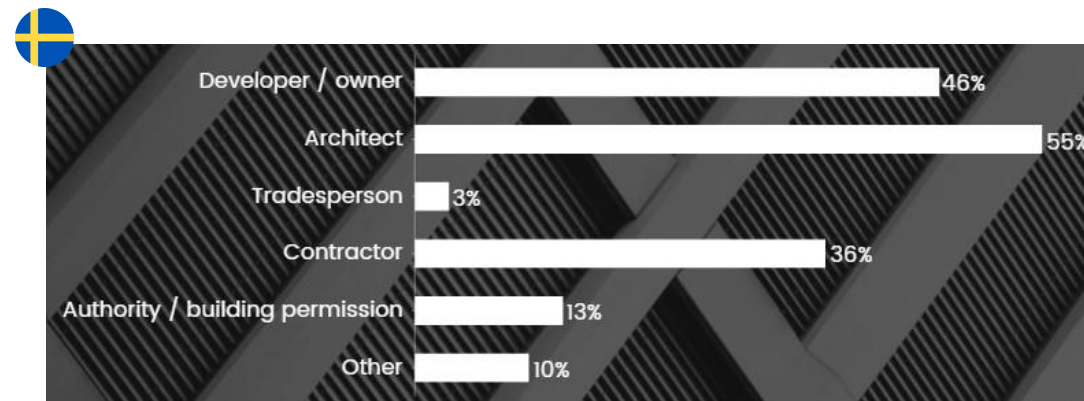
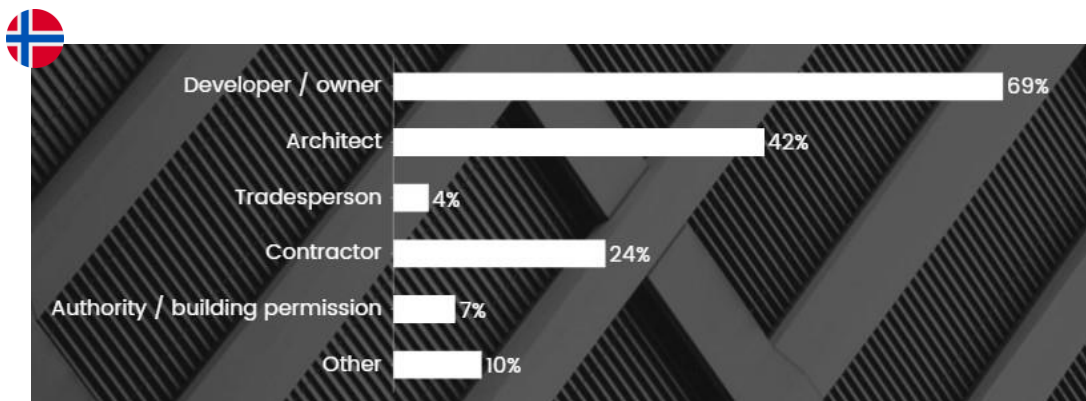
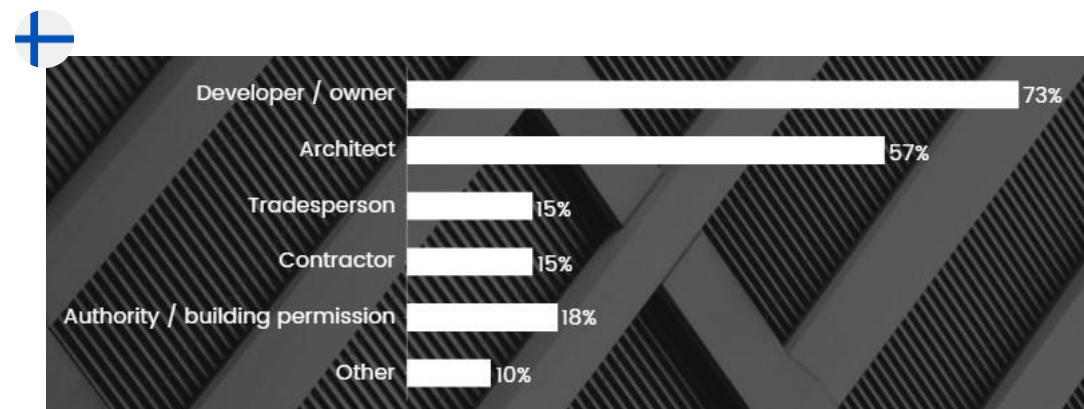
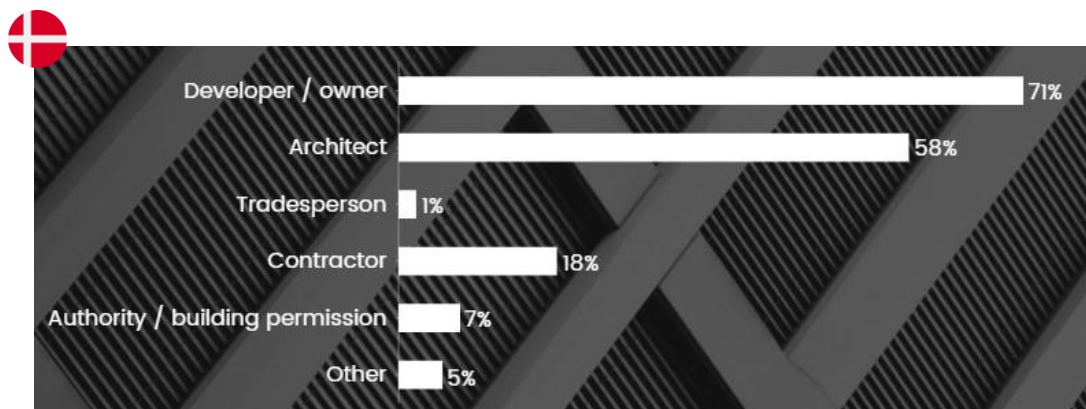
16. The Architecture Industry in General

Who ultimately chooses which materials to use for a project?



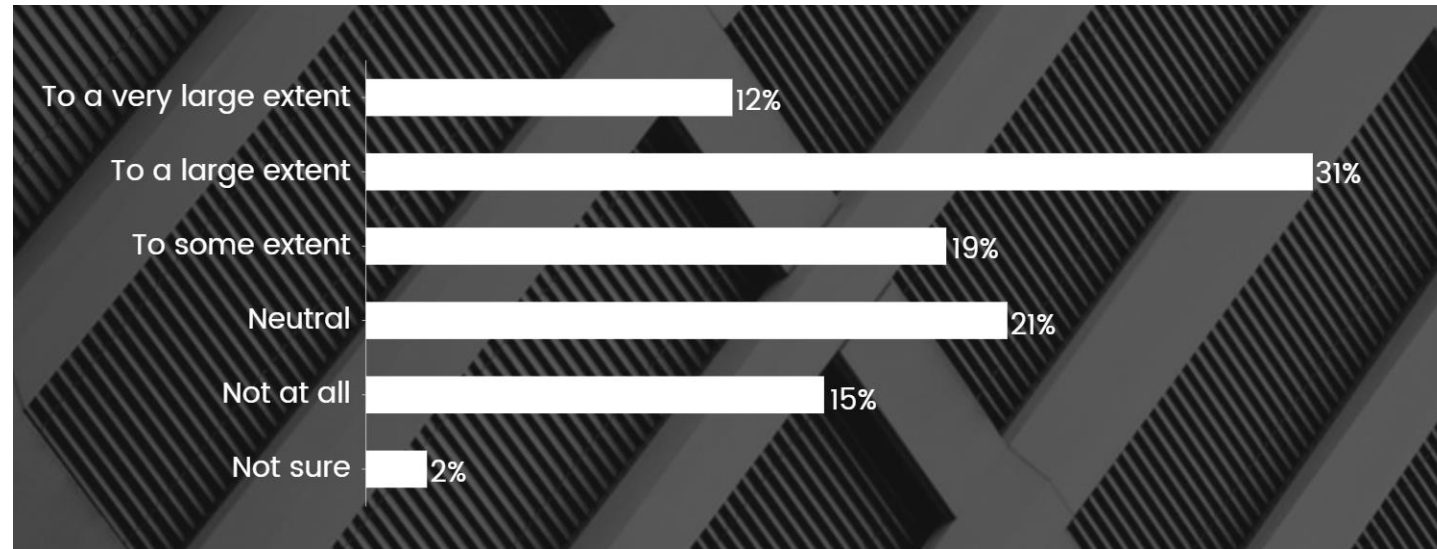
Responses divided by country

Who ultimately chooses which materials to use for a project?



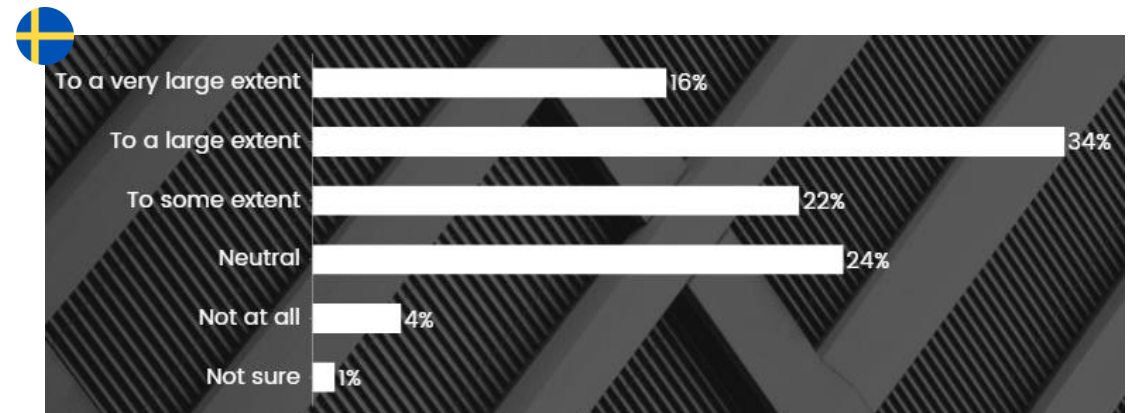
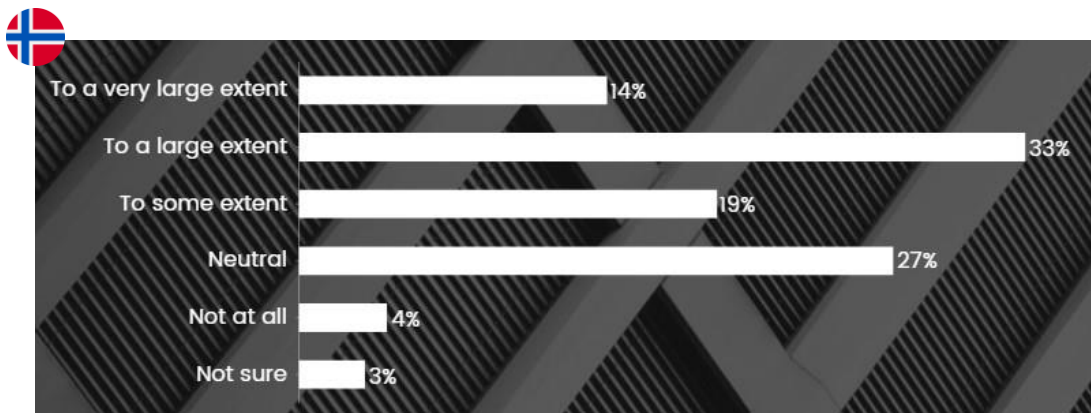
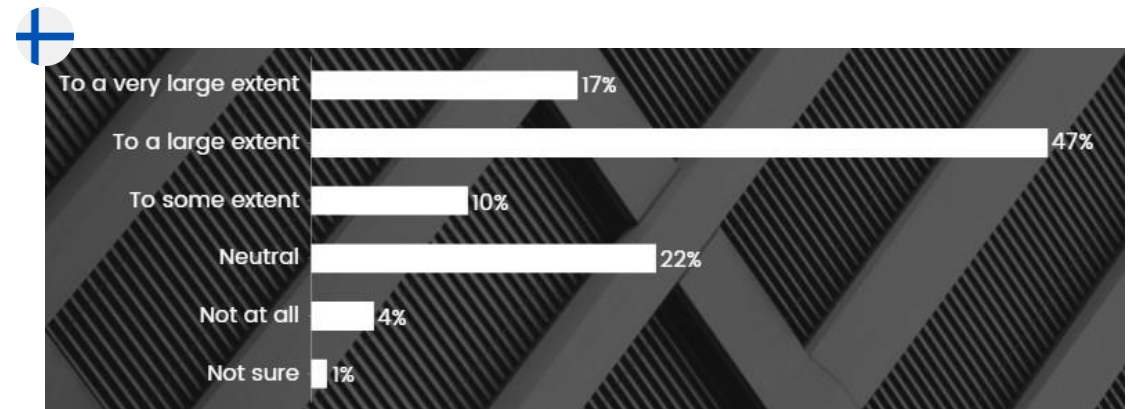
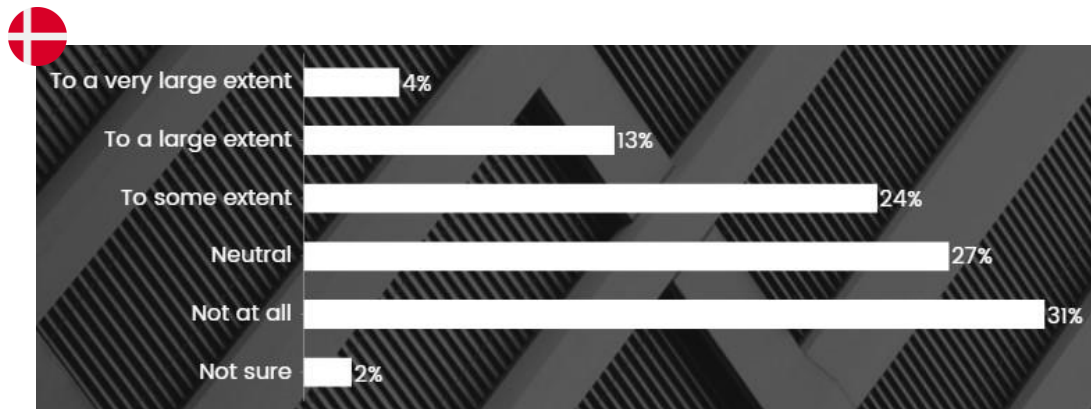
17. The Architecture Industry in General

Do you wish you had more influence in the choice of materials?



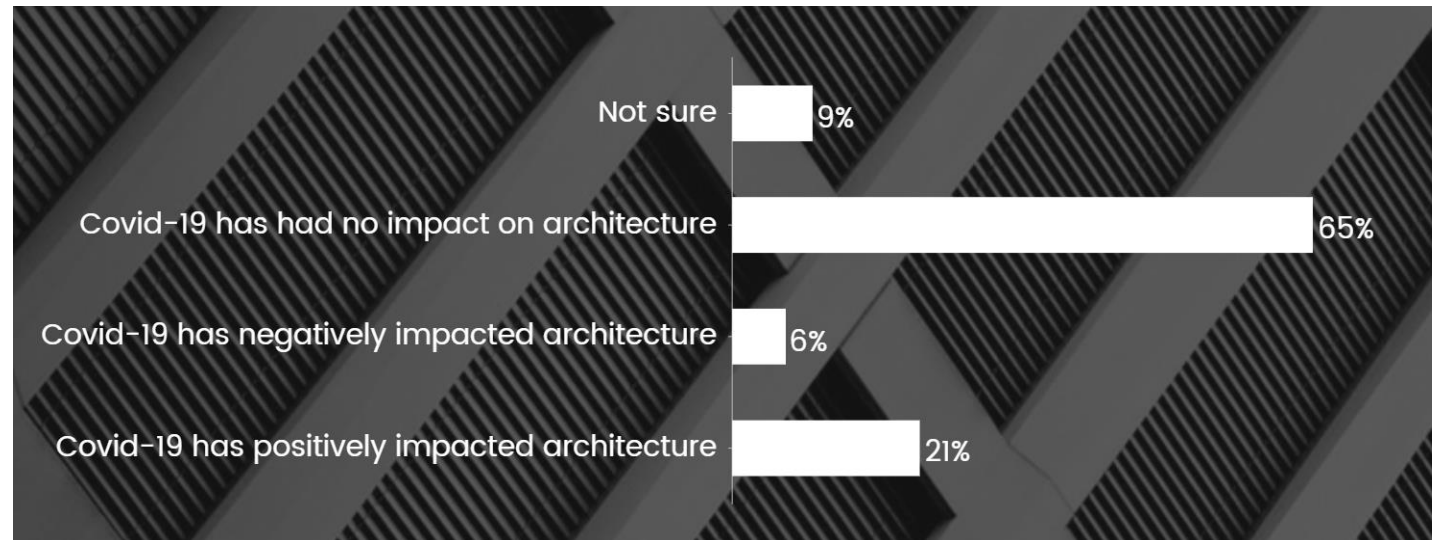
Responses divided by country

Do you wish you had more influence in the choice of materials?



18. The Architecture Industry in General

In your opinion, what impact has Covid-19 had on architecture?



19. The Architecture Industry in General

Where do you experience the greatest creative freedom in your work?



Highlighted comments:

In private projects - "In the private sector there's usually only one decision-maker."

A combination - "It varies from one project to another."

Not sure - "Depends on the developer that pays the bill."

20. The Architecture Industry in General

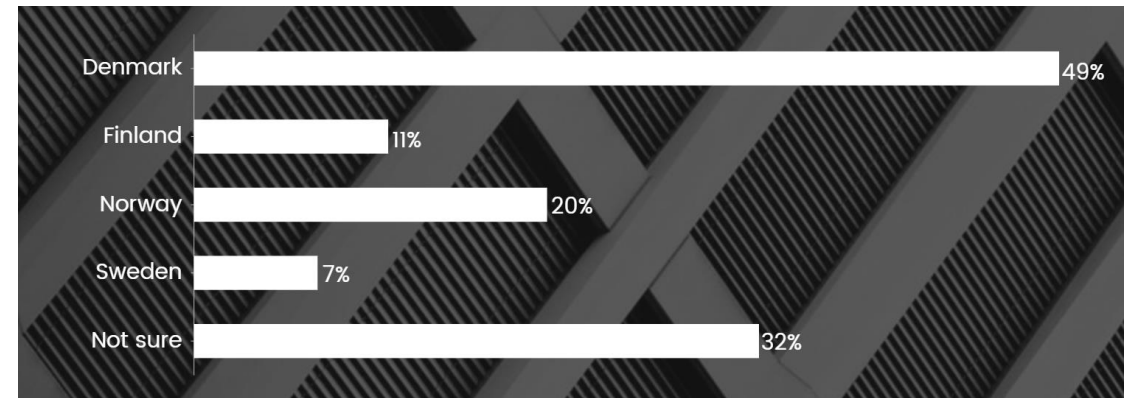
In which country do you believe that architects have the best chance to get their ideas and projects through?


Highlighted comments:

Denmark and Norway - "Denmark is open to most projects followed by Norway."

Denmark - "Denmark has a better process."

Not sure - "In Japan."





Thank you for your
participation



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